

We claim:

1. A method of performing a cell update during a reconfiguration procedure in a user equipment in a communications system, the method comprising the steps of:  
5 receiving a reconfiguration command, the reconfiguration command including an activation time at which a reconfiguration is to be applied;  
detecting a trigger event which indicates that a cell update is required; and  
cancelling the reconfiguration procedure in response to the trigger event.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1, comprising cancelling the reconfiguration procedure if the trigger event occurs before the activation time.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the reconfiguration procedure includes applying the reconfiguration at the activation time, the method further comprising cancelling the reconfiguration  
15 procedure if the trigger event occurs before the reconfiguration has been applied.
4. A method according to claim 1, further comprising initiating the cell update.
5. A method according to claim 1, in which the user equipment communicates with a  
20 UTRAN, further comprising sending a Reconfiguration\_FAILURE message to the UTRAN.
6. User equipment for performing a cell update during a reconfiguration procedure in a communications system, the equipment comprising:  
a receiver for receiving a reconfiguration command, the reconfiguration command including an  
25 activation time at which a reconfiguration is to be applied;  
an event detector for detecting a trigger event which indicates that a cell update is required; and  
a controller arranged to cancel the reconfiguration procedure in response to the trigger event.

7. User equipment according to claim 6, wherein the controller is arranged to cancel the reconfiguration procedure if the trigger event occurs before the activation time.

5 8. User equipment according to claim 6, wherein the reconfiguration procedure includes applying the reconfiguration at the activation time, the controller being arranged to cancel the reconfiguration procedure if the trigger event occurs before the reconfiguration has been applied.

9. User equipment according to claim 6, wherein the communications system comprises a UMTS system.

10